Consumption of Electricity in Rural Areas in Comparison to Urban Areas

3545. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 23 per cent of Indians in urban centres consume 75–80 per cent of electricity, whereas the rural areas with 77 per cent of our population get only 20–25 per cent;

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof;

(c) what steps have Government taken to rectify this serious imbalance, the details thereof; and

(d) what kind of success has been achieved in improving the situation, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (d) During the years 1991-92 and 1990-91, the categorywise (utilities only) pattern of electricity consumption is given in the statement (*see* below). Consumption of electricity depends on energisation of pumpsets, electrification of villages, industrialisation, commercial activities etc. Over the years, number of pumpsets have increased substantially. Pattern of consumption over past few years shows an upward trend in percentage consumption of electricity in Agriculture sector.

Statement

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All India Energy Sales (Utilities Only) During 1991-92

Category	Energy sold during 1991-92 (MU)	% to total sales in 1991-92	Energy sold during 1990-91 (MU)	% to total sales in 1990-91	% increase in sale over previous year 1990-91
Domestic	35853.70	17.27	31982.37	16.80	12.10
Commercial	12031.61	5.79	11180.99	5.87	7.61
Industrial Power*	87288.57	42.04	84208.96	44.24	3.66
Public Lighting	1765.89	0.85	1648.12	0.87	7.16
Railways/Tramways	4519.56	2.18	4112.38	2.16	9.90
Agriculture	58557.17	28.20	50321.40	26.44	16.37
Public Water Works & Sewage Pumping	4448.71	2.14	3642.52	1.91	22.13
Miscellaneous	3179.49	1.53	3260.65	1.71	(—)2.49
TOTAL	207644.70	100.00	190357.39	100.00	9.08
**Break-up*					
Industrial (LV & MV)	18916.47	9.11	17458.29	9.17	8.35
Industrial (H.V)	68372.10	32.93	66750.67	35.07	2.43
TOTAL	87288.57	42.04	84208.96	44.24	3.66